Alberta Tourism Market Monitor

Calgary air traffic edged up in March 2015

In March 2015, arrivals and departures at Calgary International Airport increased 1.5% but decreased 1.8% at Edmonton International Airport, compared to March 2014. In Calgary, the increase was due to growth in domestic (2.2%) and international (8.0%) passenger traffic. This more than offset a 3.7% decrease in transborder passenger traffic. In Edmonton a 9.8% increase in international passenger traffic was offset by a decrease in domestic (1.3%) and transborder (7.8%) passenger traffic.

Note to readers

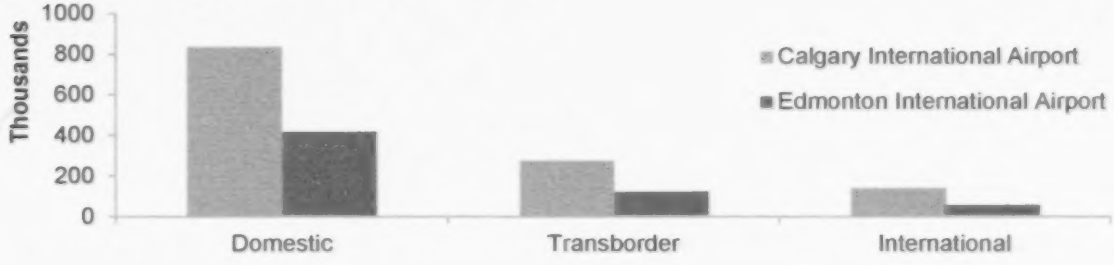
Starting May 2015, the Monthly Market Monitor will be presented differently in terms of content and outlay. In addition to the data tables provided, we will analyze and provide interpretation for selected indicators. For more information please contact Emily Wang at emily.wang@gov.ab.ca or 780-427-6206

For the first quarter of 2015, about 3.6 million passengers either boarded or deplaned at Calgary International Airport, about a 1% increase from the same quarter last year. Edmonton International Airport reported passenger traffic of about 1.8 million, a drop of 1.1% in the first quarter of 2015, compared to the first quarter of 2014.

The vast majority of passenger traffic at Calgary and Edmonton International Airports is domestic: the share of domestic arrivals and departures on average was 70% and 75% respectively from January 2012 to March 2015. This means that a small change in domestic air passenger traffic will have a relatively large impact on the total passenger traffic, as this category represents the largest component of total air passenger traffic at these airports.

Calgary International Airport became the third busiest airport in Canada in 2014, behind Toronto Pearson International Airport and Vancouver International Airport. In May 2015, the Calgary International Airport Authority announced that starting June 2016, Edelweiss will operate new non-stop flights between Calgary and Zurich twice per week from June to September.

Air Arrivals and Departures in March 2015



Alberta Government

2015 Alberta Tourism Market Monitor

Alberta Culture and Tourism

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yr-to-Date
Air Passengers 2015 (000's of arrivals and departures) [1]													
Edmonton International Total	582.1p	561.6p	613.8p	**592.7p**									**2,350.1p**
Per cent change from 2014	-0.3%	-1.0%	-1.8%	**-4.4%**									**-1.9%**
Domestic	398.2p	380.9p	421.4p	**413.4p**									**1,613.8p**
Per cent change from 2014	-2.7%	-2.9%	-1.3%	**-5.9%**									**-3.2%**
Transborder	118.2p	119.7p	129.1p	**119.3p**									**486.3p**
Per cent change from 2014	-0.3%	-3.0%	-7.8%	**-9.0%**									**-5.2%**
International	65.7p	61.0p	63.2p	**60.1p**									**249.9p**
Per cent change from 2014	16.8%	17.9%	9.8%	**21.8%**									**16.3%**
Calgary International Total	1,199.0p	**1,149.3r**	**1,266.9p**										**3,615.6p**
Per cent change from 2014	2.3%	**-0.4%**	**1.5%**										**1.1%**
Domestic	800.6p	765.0p	**839.6p**										**2,405.6p**
Per cent change from 2014	1.1%	-0.9%	**2.2%**										**0.9%**
Transborder	254.6p	253.4p	**280.9p**										**280.9p**
Per cent change from 2014	1.8%	-3.0%	**-3.7%**										**-3.7%**
International	143.8p	130.8p	**146.5p**										**421.0p**
Per cent change from 2014	9.9%	8.0%	**8.0%**										**8.6%**
Highway Count 2014 (000's of vehicles) [2]													
Hwy 1 -Sask border w-bound	55.9p	56.0p	62.3p	71.5p	77.3p	83.6p	104.0p	110.5p	79.2p	81.7p	64.4p	**72.2p**	**918.6p**
Per cent change from 2013	1.1%	0.0%	-2.2%	9.2%	-1.7%	8.2%	0.9%	1.7%	-1.6%	1.6%	-2.3%	**8.7%**	**1.9%**
Hwy 1 - Banff Pk Gate (2-way)	473.0p	449.1p	499.1p	532.4p	586.2p	659.8p	881.7p	982.6p	645.7p	563.7p	408.5p	**529.7p**	**7211.5p**
Per cent change from 2013	3.4%	-4.9%	-6.8%	15.8%	1.1%	44.1%	12.7%	4.8%	-1.3%	8.0%	1.2%	**11.6%**	**7.0%**
Hwy 16 - Jasper Pk Gate (2 way)	91.8p	84.7p	105.2p	124.6p	139.5p	162.0p	224.4p	264.8p	154.4p	125.3p	83.6p	**108.4p**	**1668.7p**
Per cent change from 2013	2.1%	-2.0%	-6.8%	16.1%	2.3%	-8.1%	5.3%	7.1%	-1.0%	5.8%	3.2%	**15.3%**	**3.1%**
Hwy 16 - Jct #897 w-bound	169.6p	157.6p	182.7p	187.5p	200.7p	200.0p	219.9p	223.3p	202.5p	210.4p	178.4p	**180.3p**	**2312.9p**
Per cent change from 2013	2.8%	-1.6%	3.7%	4.8%	0.2%	0.7%	2.3%	0.8%	0.3%	1.6%	-0.9%	**7.3%**	**1.8%**
National Park Attendance (000's of person visits) 2015 [3] **Does not include Group Tours**													
Banff	184.9p	188.6p	203.8p										**577.3p**
Per cent change from 2014	8.1%	14.6%	10.7%										**11.1%**
Jasper	52.8p	53.6p	64.1p										**170.5p**
Per cent change from 2014	6.0%	11.1%	7.4%										**8.1%**
Waterton Lakes	6.7p	7.5p	9.3p	**14.8p**									**38.3p**
Per cent change from 2014	3.5%	19.1%	47.6%	**34.5%**									**27.2%**
Employment (000's of persons) 2015 Seasonally Adjusted [4]													
Accommodation and Food Services	156.9p	157.6p	155.9p	**152.8p**									**155.8p**
Per cent change from 2014	4.4%	1.5%	3.7%	**0.9%**									**2.6%**

Sources: Edmonton International Airport, Calgary International Airport, Alberta Transportation, Parks Canada, Statistics Canada.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yr-to-Date
Accommodation Indices 2015 [5]													
Edmonton Occupancy Rate	54.4%	65.3%	**67.1%**										62.2%
Point change from 2014	-3.9	-2.8	**-7.1**										-4.7
Average Daily Room Rate	$131.29	$134.52	**$135.93**										$134.07
Variance from 2014	1.4%	1.0%	**0.5%**										0.9%
Revenue per available room	$71.42	$87.81	**$91.22**										$83.35
Calgary Occupancy Rate	55.0%	61.8%	**63.5%**										60.1%
Point change from 2014	-3.0	-1.6	**-4.1**										-2.9
Average Daily Room Rate	$156.48	$156.30	**$156.76**										$156.51
Variance from 2014	-0.4%	-3.3%	**-2.0%**										-1.9%
Revenue per available room	$86.08	$96.56	**$99.56**										$93.99
Alberta Resorts Occupancy Rate	40.8%	53.3%	**48.8%**										47.4%
Point change from 2014	2.8	7.8	**3.7**										4.6
Average Daily Room Rate	$183.23	$177.86	**$176.03**										$178.81
Variance from 2014	10.5%	1.3%	**5.4%**										5.5%
Revenue per available room	$74.83	$94.88	**$85.94**										$84.80
Other Alberta* Occupancy Rate	52.5%	55.0%	**53.3%**										53.8%
Point change from 2014	-7.5	-11.5	**-14.6**										-11.0
Average Daily Room Rate	$133.36	$132.26	**$131.29**										$132.60
Variance from 2014	2.7%	1.1%	**0.3%**										1.6%
Revenue per available room	$69.96	$72.74	**$70.01**										$71.32
Total Alberta (excl. Resorts) Occupancy Rate	53.8%	60.0%	**60.2%**										58.0%
Point change from 2014	-5.2	-6	**-9.3**										-6.8
Average Daily Room Rate	$139.70	$140.35	**$140.75**										$140.39
Variance from 2014	1.4%	0.0%	**0.1%**										0.5%
Revenue per available room	$75.12	$84.22	**$84.76**										$81.48
Food Services and Drinking Places 2015 ($ Millions) unadjusted [6]													
Total Receipts for Alberta	691.6p	**667.8p**											679.9p
Per cent change from 2014	6.4%	**6.3%**											6.5%
Historic Sites and Museums 2015 (000's of person visits) [7]													
Visitor Attendance	24.3p	42.4r	48.6p	**48.5p**									163.8p
Per cent change from 2014	3.4%	6.5%	26.2%	**2.1%**									9.7%
Exchange Rates 2015 [8]													
Canadian Dollar/U.S. Dollar (noon)	**0.81**	**0.80**	**0.79**	**0.81**									0.80
Canadian Dollar/ Euro	**0.71**	**0.71**	0.73	**0.75**									0.73
Canadian Dollar/ Great British Pounds	**0.53**	**0.52**	**0.53**	0.54									0.53
Oil Price: Western Texas Intermediate (WTI) 2015 [9]													
Cushing, OK Spot Price (US Dollar per Barrel)	**47.22**	**50.58**	47.82	**54.45**									50.02
Sources: PKF Consulting Inc, Statistics Canada, Alberta Culture, Bank of Canada, WTI													

*Other Alberta includes Lethbridge, Red Deer, and other Alberta communities

Note : New monthly figures are shown in bold type. Revisions will be bolded.
r=revised p=preliminary

Definitions of Indicators

1. Air Passengers - Numbers are preliminary estimates of air passenger arrivals and departures at the Edmonton International and Calgary International Airports.
Source: Edmonton International Airport and Calgary International Airport Websites.

2. Highway Traffic: These data are monthly totals. The monthly average daily traffic (average number of vehicles per day) is calculated by dividing the monthly total by the number of days in the month passing the counter locations and in the direction indicated for a particular month. Automatic Traffic Recorders counts all vehicles by direction. Year-to-date is a cumulative total for all vehicles.
Source: Alberta Transportation's Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATR).

3. National Park Attendance - Attendance is reported as the number of visits to National Parks in Alberta. Data are preliminary unless otherwise noted.
Beginning in 2004 the monthly figures for Banff National Park and Jasper National Park reflect independent travellers only, and do not include people travelling as part of a tour group. The tour group data, however, are included in the annual edition of the Monthly Market Monitor.
Source: Parks Canada.

4. Employment Food and Accommodation Sector - The employment figure represents all persons who worked for pay or profit or unpaid work in the food services and accommodation sector, including businesses or other ventures owned or operated by a related family member(s) during the reference period of the survey. The year-to-date total is an average for the year.
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

5. Accommodation Indices - Occupancy rates and average daily room rates are based on monthly averages of all reporting hotels, motels and motor hotels in each designated region. Alberta Resorts includes the resort communities of Banff, Lake Louise, Kananaskis, Canmore and Jasper.

Other Alberta includes Lethbridge, Red Deer, and other Alberta communities.

Revenue per available room is calculated using the occupancy rate and average daily room rate.
Source: PKF Consulting Inc. with reproduction and use of information subject to PKF Disclaimer and Restrictions as detailed at www.pkfcanada.com.

6. Food Services and Drinking Places - The monthly survey of Food Services and Drinking Places provides estimates of the value of sales and the number of locations of restaurants, caterers, and drinking places by province and by industry at the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) four-digit level. Includes total receipts from restaurants, caterers and taverns for chain and independent establishments. The target population is the 3 digit NAICS level of 722, which includes: Full-service restaurants, limited service eating places, special food places and drinking places. The year-to-date total is an average for the year.
Source: Statistics Canada, Food Services and Drinking Places.

7. Historic Sites and Museums - Visitor attendance figures are monthly totals based on fifteen historic sites, the Royal Alberta Museum, the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology, and the Tyrrell Field Station.
Source: Alberta Culture

8. **Exchange Rate**- this is the average monthly exchange rate.
Source: Bank of Canada.

9. Western Texas Intermediate - This is the average monthly oil price.

Source: Cushing, OK WTI Spot Price FOB.

25-May-2015